

wherein said flexible conveyor belt includes fanfold wells having alternating blades such that a path of continuous material follows a serpentine path in the direction that said ice cube molds are to be stretched.

22. (Once Amended) An icemaker assembly in accordance with claim 21, wherein said second motor is energized via an actuation device.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Official Office Action dated April 12, 2001. First, Applicant affirms election with traverse of claims 1-27. Next, the Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by or in the alternative under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Lutes et al. in view of several references including, Gould and Goetz et al. Next, claims 18 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. In this amendment, claims 1 and 22 have been amended and claim 18 has been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to include the language of allowable claim 18 as suggested by the Examiner.

A continuation will be filed to continue prosecution on original claims 1-17 and 19-27. A divisional has been filed to continue prosecution on original claims 28-92.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below

Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. (Once Amended) An icemaker assembly disposed within a freezer assembly, said icemaker assembly comprising

a conveyor assembly positioned within a freezer compartment of said freezer assembly, having at least a front roller and a rear roller and a continuous flexible conveyor belt fitted in tension about said front and rear rollers, said conveyor belt having a multiplicity of individual ice cube molds for creation of individual cubes therein; and

at least one ice cube storage bin positioned below said conveyor assembly for storage of said ice cubes;

wherein said flexible conveyor belt includes fanfold wells having alternating blades such that a path of continuous material follows a serpentine path in the direction that said ice cube molds are to be stretched.

22. (Once Amended) An icemaker assembly in accordance with claim [1] 21, wherein said second motor is energized via an actuation device.